



Tom Howie performing with the Bob Moses band on the Ellen Degeneres Show, January 27, 2016.

## Video Chat: Tom Howie Lead Singer / Songwriter of Bob Moses

By Elman + Perez-Trujillo

**T**om Howie was born in Vancouver, British Columbia in 1988. He is aware of having been musical since the age of three. He started playing guitar as a teenager, and was accepted at the renowned Berklee College of Music in 2008.

I first met Tom Howie in 2008, because my son Evan, who writes and performs Hip Hop, matriculated at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver. We were living in Cambridge, Massachusetts at the time (not too far from Berklee), so our families did a house swap to facilitate the freshman move-in period.

We all became friends, and Tom spent his first Thanksgiving in the United States at our home in Truro, at the tip of Cape Cod. Tom even played music for our Thanksgiving guests, which included super jazz agent Ted Kurland.

After Berklee, Tom moved to Brooklyn where he serendipitously bumped into another musician from Vancouver, Jimmy Vallance. Both musicians were exploring a wide variety of forms for their musical expression and soon discovered a synergy in their work. The duo formed a group they called Bob Moses, after the legendary New York city planner and “Master Builder,” Robert Moses.

Creating a unique sound within the electronic club/dance scene, Bob Moses soon found themselves in demand around the world – playing Miami one day, Austin the next, Mexico City the next, Rio, São Paulo and on and on.

Bob Moses recently released their most complete and realized album, *Days Gone By*, and the reviews have been glowing.

“If Jakob Dylan fronted revered electronic duo Boards of Canada, the results might sound a lot like the second album from Bob Moses, the Vancouver-born duo. Singer Tommy Howie and keyboardist Jimmy Vallance lay out 10 tracks of delicately pulsing grooves, reverb-soaked synth melodies, and Howie’s achingly gorgeous, nicotine-stained croon. One of the year’s most underrated electronic albums.” – Entertainment Weekly

“Bob Moses posed an interesting question with their debut album: could underground dance music be made accessible without muddying the waters or sacrificing quality in the process? The answer was unequivocally yes, with *Days Gone By* emerging as one of the most coherent and forward-moving LPs of the year.

Arriving at a time when electronic artists could otherwise be found struggling to keep fans engaged across the full-length platform, Bob Moses delivered an album so wholly consistent as to hold our attention with ease from the first track to last. Carving real instruments and ambient soundscapes into a well-rounded balance of vivid club work and alternative songwriting, *Days Gone By* was unlike anything else we heard in 2015. As we first proposed three months ago upon the album’s release, *Days Gone By* remains our clear choice for album of the year.” – Dancing Astronaut

The videos below are organized by topic and run between 60 seconds and 4 minutes. Tap on any video. You must be connected to the Internet to view the videos.

### INTRODUCTION: 1:49 min.



### EXPOSURE TO BROAD INFLUENCES: 1:08 min.



*When you were first starting to make music, what type of music attracted you?*

### DEVELOPING A VOICE: 58 sec.



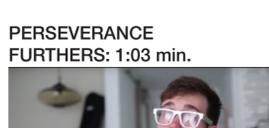
*Was Sarah McLachlan an influence on your development as a musician?*

### EDUCATION: 1:32 min.



*What were the most important things you learned at the Berklee College of Music?*

### PERSEVERANCE FURTHERS: 1:03 min.



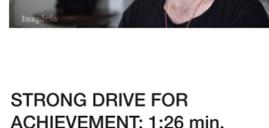
*What steps did you take to launch your career after college?*

### CREATES A UNIQUE BRAND: 1:03 min.



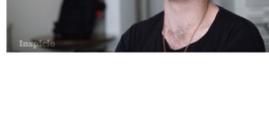
*Do you write all the music you perform?*

### STRONG DRIVE FOR ACHIEVEMENT: 1:26 min.



*How did you start doing gigs all over the world?*

### CREATIVE FLEXIBILITY: 3:36



*What were the influences on the evolution of your sound?*

### CRITICAL THINKING: 1:36 min.



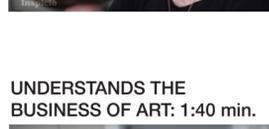
*Is there any genre of music that you don’t like?*

### UNDERSTANDS THE BUSINESS OF ART: 1:40 min.



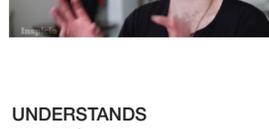
*Are there any music publications that are useful?*

### UNDERSTANDS TRENDS: 1:38 min.



*Explain why DJs make so much money.*

### PERSEVERANCE & SERENDIPITY: 1:50 min.



*What is the biggest challenge that you overcame successfully?*

### WORKS HARD: 2:45 min.



*Besides talent, what are the skills and behaviors that are important to success?*

### CRITICAL THINKING & RESILIENCE: 1:55 min.



*Why do some talented artists fail to succeed while others with less talent succeed?*

### THE MIAMI MUSIC SCENE: 2:05 min.



*How does the Miami music community differ from other music communities?*